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PERFUMES.

&c., &c., &c.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,

CHEMISTS, DRUGGISTS

AND

PERFUMERS.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writers, not necessarily for publication; but as evidence of good faith.

Whilst the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the fair discussion by correspondents of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than THREE O'CLOCK so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Arrangements have been made to publish The Hongkong Telegraph daily at 4 P.M.

Subscribers in the central districts who do not receive their copies before FIVE O'CLOCK will oblige by at once communicating with the Manager.

BIRTH.

At Foochow, on the 8th instant, the wife of J. VON JEWZSKI, Imperial Maritime Customs, of a son.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1883.

The team of race-ponies in training the property of Mr. S. B. Lewis were sold by public auction at KENNEDY'S Horse Repository yesterday afternoon. There was a large attendance of purchasers and spectators, nearly the whole of the "sports" of the Colony being present. After some disagreeable preliminaries, to which we need not further allude here, Mr. J. M. GUERDS put up the first lot, a small and weedy looking iron grey, one of Mr. TIENTSIN's celebrated trio of 3,18 ponies. Started at five dollars, bids came slowly, and eventually Mr. KENNEDY became the owner of a Derby winner in embryo at the modest outlay of \$25. The white subscription griffin was the next victim, Mr. KENNEDY's final bid of \$15 clinching the business. El Dorado, at one time highly thought of for the Shanghai Griffins of last Autumn, and ridden for that race by the accomplished Mr. BROWELL, was also put in at five dollars, and knocked down to the veteran sportsman Mr. W. M. MORGAN, at \$34—a decidedly cheap purchase, as the little pony stays well and has a rare dash of speed, Esperance, second to Astrologer in the one mile Bookmakers' Cup at Shanghai on the "off-day"—time 2.24—after a slight competition was taken, by Mr. GUERDS at \$85. The handsome little chestnut Astonisher was put in at fifty dollars, when Mr. MORTIMER MURRAY jumped to a century, and he was knocked down to the Macao sportsman at that figure. The large chestnut griffin was secured by Mr. MORGAN at \$75, and then Mr. FRASER-SMITH had a shot for the black Inverary (another of TIENTSIN's celebrated three) the hammer falling at \$37. The slashing grey griffin Wrangler created quite a sensation when led into the ring, and a good many heads were soon nodding for this probable Derby winner. After a protracted competition Mr. W. M. MORGAN outstayed all competitors and secured the prize, on joint account for himself and Mr. JOHN FZEL, for \$670—the highest price at the sale. For the spotted subscription griffin, a powerful and shapely customer, but with a big knee and unsightly fore-legs, the competition was rather brisk. Mr. GUERDS at last keeping the "Valley Stakes" and German Cup

candidate for himself at \$170, and the same buyer never left the iron grey griffin Triumph, until the hammer fell at \$270. The last on the catalogue was the grand looking Wild Fang (late Earl Harold) purchased by Mr. LEWIS from Mr. KERRFOOT at the last Shanghai meeting for £500. After a keen competition this splendid racer also joined Mr. GUERDS' team at an outlay of \$625.

The following is a complete list of the ponies sold, with prices realised and names of purchasers:—

No. 1—Dark grey griffin...	Mr. J. Kennedy	\$28
" 2—White Subscription griffin...	Mr. J. Kennedy	\$15
" 3—El Dorado...	Mr. W. M. Morgan	\$34
" 4—Esperance...	Mr. J. M. Guedes	\$85
" 5—Astonisher...	Mr. Mortimer Murray	\$100
" 6—Chestnut griffin...	Mr. W. M. Morgan	\$75
" 7—Black griffin...	Mr. R. Fraser-Smith	\$37
" 8—Grey griffin...	Mr. W. M. Morgan	\$670
" 9—Spotted sub-griffin...	Mr. J. M. Guedes	\$170
" 10—Iron grey griffin...	Mr. J. M. Guedes	\$270
" 11—Wild Fang...	Mr. J. M. Guedes	\$625

Total.....\$2,159

Recent repeated quarrels of Bismarck with and coarse bullyings of the Imperial Parliament have, says the San Francisco Chronicle, raised serious doubts that the empire of his sole origination and construction can survive its creator. Bismarck is a great man, but, like all entitled to that distinction, wanting in perfect symmetry of character. The Prussian "Junker," like the English high Tory, is a firm believer in despotic methods of government, and Bismarck is of the very essence of Junkerdom. He once openly so proclaimed himself, and it was at a time when Liberalism was riding a higher horse in Germany than now. The Prussian Junker is a pessimist of pessimists. He loves and cherishes the memory of those good old days when the father of Frederick the Great walked through Berlin and amused himself by caning merchants and mechanics, and when the country Junker was the fat of the land, protected from justice by the Courts, and at the expense of the common people, a "great hunter before the Lord."

Whoever has read the account which Dr. Busch gives in two small volumes of the Chancellor's household and of his conversations during the campaign of 1870-71 will recognize these qualities in Bismarck. He will also discover that the empire was Bismarck's ideal and creation, for which he stood ready to sacrifice everything but the supremacy of Prussia in the empire. For a while he was much perplexed and in great doubt of success. The King of Bavaria held back, suspicious of Prussian ambition and military power, and Saxony remained timid of all bids thrown at her to come in. The two were finally allured by the offer of a veto in the Bundesrath in favor of Saxony, Bavaria and Wurttemberg—a veto that, like the British crown's, never has been and never may be exercised, till it becomes as obsolete as the Treaty of Tilsit. The idea of the new creation was a grand one. Prussia alone, with her incomparable military organization, is a full match at all times for her jealous neighbor Austria, as has been demonstrated in more than one war; but she is not a match for a combination that might include Austria and the other German States, or France, with Bavaria, Saxony and Belgium.

The exposed flank of the Prussian State on the Rhine was her weak point. And the war for which most people blame Louis Napoleon was in fact hailed by Bismarck, if not actually promoted by him, as Prussia's opportunity to strengthen that weakness. The annexation of Alsace and Lorraine was easy after Sedan. But to hold them after France should recuperate her military power, that was the perplexing question. The North German Confederation was not a nation. It was liable to dissolution at any time of general war in Europe. And it became an absolute necessity of the situation to reconstruct the German States and mould them all into one nation, with one Parliament, one Emperor and one diplomatic force. WILLIAM was a popular King and a popular military leader. Under the sweet persuasions of the Chancellor, who lost no opportunity, through the official press of Berlin, to praise and flatter the Saxon and Bavarian armies, the two principal German States were seduced into his plan, and the empire, with King WILLIAM at its head, became a fact.

In all the negotiations of 1871 Bismarck displayed nothing but the soft velvet glove. The iron hand underneath was adroitly concealed. But the Imperial Government was not five years old till it was revealed—first, in the harsh treatment of the free cities of Frankfurt, Hamburg and Bremen; next, in the scorn he showed of the Liberals of the south and the Clericals in the Reichstag; and finally, in the open declaration that the Constitution is not binding on the monarch's conscience any further than the monarch shall see fit to recognize it. In short, that if the Imperial Parliament does not suit the Emperor, he may disregard its acts and rule as a despot. The experiment of repeated dissolutions of Parliament in the hope that the elections

might be dragged into obedience to the Chancellor's wishes have availed his cause nothing. Every election makes the Junker situation worse. There is evidently no use in continuing this method; but the Chancellor cannot so see it. Again dissolution is threatened, because, as he gives out, "It is impossible to conduct public business satisfactorily with the Prussian Diet Conservative and the German Reichstag Liberal." A new election, it is thought, will result favorably to the Prussian method of government. Probably no one thinks, so out of the Chancellor's circle. The last election was worse for him than the preceding one, and the next is likely to be worse than the last.

In the mean time, what if the Emperor and Bismarck should both cross the river to the majority? Who could hold the Imperial reins with so hard a hand as the creator of the empire? Who could hold the confidence of the States outside of Prussia like old WILLIAM? Revolt is in preparation in many places. Saxony and Bavaria, Hamburg, Bremen, Frankfurt and the usurped Kingdom of Hanover are ready to go out the moment they can move with safety, and the French provinces are as bitter against the empire as ever. Bavaria has never been more an admirer of it than was South Carolina of the American Union in 1861. The elements of discord are everywhere but in Prussia, threatening and rambling, and if Bismarck goes the empire will follow, unless a new and more conciliatory policy is adopted.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 18th.

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

Prince Napoleon will be prosecuted before the ordinary tribunal.

The Chamber of Deputies voted urgency for the bill expelling families who have resigned in France.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

We note that H.M.S. Zephyr arrived at Shanghai from Chefoo on the 13th instant.

OWNERS are reminded that the entries for the Hongkong Races of 1883 close to the Clerk of the Course at the Hongkong Club before 5 p.m. this afternoon.

LI ASHING, a painter, for stealing 2lbs. of copper nails from the American bark *Corypheus* while in Aberdeen Dock, was this morning relegated to the "retreat" for a month's hard labor by Mr. Woodhouse.

We hear that a well-known government official created quite a sensation at the fancy dress ball the other evening. He went as Judas Iscariot, and looked and acted like that celebrated historical personage as if to the manner born.

We read of a Boston man who was so pleased with a pair of boots that "exactly suited" him that he gave the maker an order for enough boots, shoes, slippers, overboots, rubbers, etc., to last him through the remainder of his natural life. The order embraced 256 pair of coverings for his pedal extremities, and was guaranteed by a deposit of \$100 in cash.

AJOIST inhuman act, says the Shanghai Courier, has just been enacted in Li Hongkew, and we are assured that the particulars handed to us are correct. It appears that on Saturday evening, a child died in the above district of small-pox, and the father, out of spite, took the child of another man, bound its hands and feet, stuffed a handkerchief in its mouth, and placed it on the bed with the corpse. Fortunately, the police heard of the affair, and a native constable arrested the Chinaman, and took him to the Mixed Court, where it is to be hoped he will be severely punished.

WILLIAM HARRY BAND, and Alfred Hutchings, marines, charged with being drunk and damaging the property of a tailor in the Queen's Road, admitted the charge and said they had got loose amongst the fire-water and lost their senses. Mr. Woodhouse, instructed the short-coated soldier peeler to ante up one Mexican each for the benefit of the treasury, and also requested them to hand over another 75 cents each as a solatium to the wounded feelings of the "Snip." In default of payment of the above sums the marines were to be treated to four days' free board, and lodging, with a "trifle of" shot drill thrown in. The heroes ante up and left the Court poorer, but, we hope, wiser men and marines.

WONG AMAN and Cheung Asam, remanded from the 16th instant on a charge of breaking into a house and stealing property to the value of \$10, were again before Mr. Woodhouse this morning. The first prisoner, in November 1880, was in serious trouble for burglary, having been served out with two years' hard labor by the Supreme Court authorities, three months of each year to be in solitary confinement. The second prisoner is also a long way from being the "clean potato" as Mr. Woodhouse had to give him six months' employment with the other convicts, last year for burglary. The worst of men, it is held, have their redeeming points, and even something can be said for the miserable wretches whose troubles and trials we are now chronicling. When asked by Mr. Woodhouse if they had anything to say for themselves they kept an almost angelic silence, merely intimating that they would not trouble His Worship by calling any witnesses and thus waste his valuable time in useless argument. This conduct on the part of the prisoners evidently affected His Worship, who he finished the performance by giving them a kindly caution and committing them to the tender mercies of the Supreme Court.

We are informed by the Agents, Messrs. Geo. R. Stevens & Co., that the steamship *Hungarian* left Sydney for Hongkong, yesterday, via the Queensland Ports. The *Hungarian* will be due here on or about the 13th proximo.

We hear that the new launch for the Government No. 1 Steam Fire Engine was launched this afternoon at 4 o'clock and christened the "Fireman." We shall give a few particulars of the ceremony in our next issue, having despatched our "fire special" to the spot with full instructions to be "all there."

A NATIONAL observatory is about to be erected on the summit of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Scotland. Its situation in the middle track of the depressions or storms of Northwestern Europe is one of the chief reasons for its selection, as observations made there must be of far greater value in their relation to the theory of cyclones than the mountain observations in Southern France, where the principal observatory for this branch of meteorology is at present situated.

The Hongkong cricketers returned from Amoy by the steamer *Douglas* this forenoon. They had an exceedingly pleasant time "up the coast" and were very successful in the various trials of skill. Besides easily winning the cricket match in Amoy, they were successful at lawn tennis, racquets, and the single handed billiard match, but were vanquished at "ten pins," and lost the double handed game at billiards. A one innings match at cricket was played at Swallow, Hongkong winning by 10 wickets. Swallow scored 35 runs, and this total was headed with the loss of one wicket.

LATEST among those "rights" which women ought to enjoy, but are wickedly deprived of at the hands of despotic man, is, observes the *Telegraph*, to be ranked the right to whistle. We are gravely informed by a contemporary, who refers to the subject more in sorrow than in anger, that in forbidding females to indulge in whistling the laws of society are condemning them to the possession of permanently narrowed chests. The "inhaling and exhaling of the breath" which is a necessary accompaniment of the practice of whistling is described as the very best means for developing several extra inches of space wherein the lungs may perform their proper functions. Why, then, we are asked, is this accomplishment, which is "company for a lone person," to be denied to women, many of whom "have not the gift of song," and might, therefore, take to the pastime of whistling as the only musical performance of which they are humanly capable? The notion pre-supposes that nuisances are scarce in this noisy world; but if ladies think that they will be more attractive to themselves and to others by developing a taste for whistling they are perfectly entitled in this free country to imitate the vulgar boys. There are several occasions in life when the habit would be likely to come in useful. An unpopular speaker might be whistled down. It would be possible to nip an unwelcome proposal for matrimony in the bud by adopting the custom of my Uncle Toby. Ladies of little reflective powers might copy the habit of gentlemen with entirely vacant minds, and might "whistle as they go for want of thought." It would be preferable, however, that they should whistle in tune rather than out of it, for, fond as most educated persons are of melodious sounds, they could not be expected to consider female charms much enhanced by the utterance of shrill and discordant noises. It is probable that a persistence in the practice would force the male attendant to seek other and less musically-inclined companions, even those endowed with narrow chests, in which case the female whistler would undoubtedly become a very "lonesome" person.

A VERY fat woman, "going on 50 years old," was tolled up the four pairs of stairs, rested her breath awhile, and then wanted to see "the head reporter." "I am alone in this world," she commenced as she sat down and pulled out her handkerchief. "A widow, eh?" queried the head reporter. "Yes, a poor starving widow, whose husband has been dead these fourteen years." "Death is a sad thing, madam. It crushes hopes, severs ties, and breaks hearts." "He was such a good man?" she sobbed, covering her face with her handkerchief. "And such a good provider. We allers had meat, and wood, and preserves; and do you know he never gave me an unkind word." "He must have been an excellent man." "He was—he was. He'd get up at nights and cover up the children and shake down the stove, and if his meals wasn't ready, or he found buttons off his shirt, he'd never open his head." "And your grief is yet strong—your sorrow just as deep?" "Just the same as on the day he lay down dyin' and took my hand and whispered—'Corrida, don't take on so.' Yes, I'm grieving just the same, or I wouldn't care what folks said. That's what brought me up here—folks are talking about me." "They are, eh?" "Yes, they are. They've said that I was after a widower; that I fell in love with one of the boarders; that I was keeping up correspondence with an undertaker; and that I was dead in love with a dozen men." "And it is not true?" "True young man! Look at me! Do I look like one who wanted to get married?" "Well, no." "How could I marry again?" she exclaimed. "How could I forget that dear from beneath the sod, and smile on another man? Marry! Young man, how could they start on such stories?" "And you want them denied?" "That's his! Here's 10 cents, and I want you to come out in the paper to-morrow in a place, so long, and say that I'll prosecute these slanderers if these stories don't cease. Put it in red type, mister—in red type and big letters." At that a "Detroit widow" can't escape the vile slanders, no matter how well she behaves. "I marry again—think of it, young man!" "But widows do often re-marry?" "Alas, they do young man. Somehow it seems lonesome to be a widow, and have no one to defend you, and be all alone, but—I couldn't think of taking another husband—not unless he was rich. And she wiped her eyes again, and felt her way downstairs.

CHAN ASOW, a coolie, who since 1877 has had four separate lots of six months' hard labor served out to him for larcenies, is "once more into the breach, dear friends," this time on a charge of freeing on to \$87, the property of a fellow passenger on board the *Ulysses* while travelling on the way up from Singapore. Chan Asow did not display much anxiety to bother the witnesses, and, after receiving a little advice from Mr. Woodhouse, was committed for trial at the Supreme Court.

"HAMLET," it now appears, was a liar of the first water. He speaks of an "undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns," and that, too, just after he has had a windy interview with his father's ghost, that had but recently arrived from the said undiscovered country.—*Exchange*. "Hamlet," is neither a subscriber to nor an advertiser in *Texas Siftings*, hence we will not be accused of undue partiality when we take up for him. The apparent discrepancy is susceptible of a very satisfactory explanation. The reason no traveler ever returns from the undiscovered country is self-evident. If the country is undiscovered no traveler ever found it, and, of course, it is impossible for a traveler to return from a country he never reached. If a traveler ever did get to that country of course it would no longer be an undiscovered country. It is with Shakespeare as it is with the Bible. The most difficult problems are solved by studying them in the proper spirit.—*Texas Siftings*.

THE Grand Duchess Vladimir of Russia, who is full of sparkle and wit, found the court life of Gatchina insufferably stiff and dull, duller even than an ordinary English watering place is to an English lady accustomed to foreign travel. In a letter to a Parisian correspondent the caustic writer turned the court circles of Gatchina into the wildest fun. In order to avoid mentioning by name her high and mighty Imperial relatives, the Grand Duchess borrows nicknames from zoology, aptly fitted to those her caustic wit played with. The cat, the rat, the mouse, the wasp, the scorpion, the toad without the jewel in its head, conveyed to her correspondent her ideas of the people who provided or buzzed about her, or stung her feet as she walked through the courtly circles of Gatchina. As ill luck would have it, the letter, intercepted, by Ignatieff, was handed to the Czar, who, in great wrath, gave orders for her quitting Russia. The Grand Duke followed her and they are enjoying themselves in Paris, where they recently met the Prince of Wales.

SAYS the Foochow Herald of the 11th inst.—The Soiree Musicale in aid of the Foochow Native Hospital, took place on Monday evening last in the Masonic Hall, the entertainment being attended by the generality of the community, who were afforded an immense treat in the shape of musical talent, whilst having at the same time the gratification of feeling that they were individually assisting so worthy a cause. The programme opened with a selection from the favourite opera, of *Il Trovatore*, the instrumentalists of the flute and violin—with piano-forte accompaniment—rendering the portion of Verdi chosen, in most perfect style. Mr. Sanderson's "Aurora" was given with considerable pathos, and was followed by Mr. Leyburn's exquisite solo on the flute, "Air Varié," the masterly execution of which piece was fully appreciated. The second part of the soiree seemed, if possible, to eclipse the first, and if precedence can be given to any portion of the Concert, it must most certainly be accredited to the selections for the trios from "Don Giovanni" and "Il Bagdadu Kalife" both of these recitals being rendered to perfection. Mr. Allen's song "Lady Clara" received a well-merited encore, and Mr. Siemssen's solo on the violin ("Cavatina") thoroughly delighted the audience. We are pleased to learn that the amount realized was something substantial.

POOR Oscar Wilde has, says the New York Tribune, at last become utterly commonplace. It was the thing he most abhorred when he first arrived, and no man strove so hard to be always original and interesting as this lank and long-haired English aesthete. The novelty has worn off, however, and the apostle of the beautiful pronounced the most wearisome bore in New York. This is saying a great deal. It surprised me that he retained his popularity so long, for a more repulsive man has seldom visited us. He is guilty of all sorts of petty meannesses, such as perpetually begging cigarettes from acquaintances and never offering any himself; eating dinners with indefatigable industry at other people's expense; sneaking out of paying cab fares, and "working" his friends shamelessly for whatever he can get out of them. He lives in cheap apartments in Irving place; and affects a sneer of contempt for all things American. Still he does not go away, but remains and lives on us. Public feeling for him has changed somewhat. When he landed here last New Year's day there was a general feeling that he was a young man, with an idea, and that he ought to have fair play. He has had fair play; and has proved himself an egotistical charlatan, a bumptious braggart, and a tenacious bore. Hence the feeling has changed. The aesthete never goes out alone. The boots and feet of the crowd are too much for him, and he takes whatever exercise is needful late at night in the streets, and only ventures forth in the night when he can inveigle some goodhearted citizen into accompanying him. The supreme ugliness of the man never struck me so forcibly as at the first Lotus Club dinner, a few nights ago. Unfortunately, I sat opposite him. It destroyed my appetite. His great mass of coarse hair fell on the collar of his coat, which looked greasy and greasy from the contact, and his little, heavy eyes stared stupidly out from beneath half-closed eyelids. His mouth, with its misshapen, irregular, and black-looking teeth, was positively the most repulsive feature I have ever seen, and his thick, dark-colored lips, and mortified skin hanging loosely on a bony face made up a caricature that resembled a being from another planet rather than an Englishman of the fashionable variety. It would seem to be a shame that for Oscar to return home.

OUR Macao correspondent writes under yesterday's date:—The Governmental scandal that took place here a fortnight ago has been increasing in proportion, and becoming the by-word of every news canvasser. His Excellency Governor Graça has evidently forgotten himself to an alarming extent. His strictures on the free press of the colony have been found wanting in sense and in administrative correctness. He is nobody, and nobody cares for him. As a governor, of course, he is entitled to a certain amount of official respect; but as an individual, he is simply detested.

THERE were grand doings this afternoon at the Victoria School, No. 4, Hollywood Road, presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Hanlon, no less an affair taking place than the presentation of prizes to the successful scholars. The Administration, through indisposition we believe, unable to attend at the ceremony. Mrs. Marsh and several other ladies were present, and Bishop Raymond distributed the prizes. Our early hour of going to press prevents us from giving a detailed account of the proceedings, with a list of the prize takers. We shall, however, in our next issue refer to the matter more fully, as both Mr. and Mrs. Hanlon have worked long and successfully in Hongkong in the cause of Education, and are well deserving of public notice and support.

THE public prize distribution in connection with the Government Central School will take place in the end of the present month, or very early in February. We understand that the examination held a few days ago by the Government Inspector of Schools was highly satisfactory in every respect. It has hitherto been the custom on such occasions as the annual distribution of prizes, for a large section of the community, who delight to encourage the rising generation in their studies, to present prizes for distribution to the successful scholars. We trust the old custom will not be forgotten and that a large number of prizes will be sent in. We feel sure that Mr. Wright, the head-master, will be glad to accept any prizes thus presented, and are also certain that the same will be awarded judiciously, and in the fairest manner possible. When the presentation takes place we shall be there, and shall have much pleasure in "immortalising" the "Central Schoolboys" by chronicling their literary successes in the columns of the *Telegraph*.

A CORRESPONDENT who signs himself "G.M.C." writes to the Foochow Herald on the 10th inst. as follows:—"It is now a year since I wrote you, under date the 11th January 1882, concerning the objections made by the Taotai of Amoy, on the representation of the Lektin officers in the manufacture of iron pans by British and German Merchants at a place called Kulungdo in the treaty port of Amoy. I have been informed that the Taotai had some time before this demanded through the Consuls the stoppage of the work at the foundry, where the pans were manufactured, and as no treaty stipulations had been violated, the Consuls would not acquiesce in his demands so, the iron pans which were sent alongside the steamers and intended for importation were, sometime in the month of November last, seized by the Lektin officers. Of course the matter was represented to Peking by the respective Consuls, and they were subsequently informed by the Ministers that the Taung-Yi Yamen would instruct the Chinese Authorities to release the goods. Consequently upon this information the Consuls repeatedly wrote to the Taotai to give up the pans, but instead of delivering up the same, he wrote to say that he had received no instructions to that effect. This occasioned the German Consul much annoyance, and as the matter was provoking, he obtained on the 22nd ultimo, a party of marines from the gunboat, which was then anchored in the harbour of Amoy, who marched right up to the Lektin Office and retook the goods belonging to their countrymen. Messrs. Gerard & Co., but our Consul at Amoy, has not taken the same step as the German Consul did; merely telling the proprietor of the foundry to have patience, and I certainly consider that he, the Consul, acted very wisely for his hands were tied. Immediately after this, the Taotai wrote to the two Consuls saying that he had just received instructions from H.E. the Viceroy not to interfere with the exportation of the said articles, and as Dr. Williams once said 'Mandarins are liars' no man could believe that the instructions came so opportunely. I may say, that by giving in too much, the Mandarins are accustomed to treat any complaint preferred by British subjects very lightly, and it angers well for our Consuls, if they have the nerve, to serve them in the same manner as the German Consuls of Swatow and Amoy did, for the Consul of the former port did the same in the matter of the land purchased by a German firm. In my humble opinion a certain amount of discretionary power ought to be vested in our Consuls in cases of emergency, instead of having matters in dispute sent up to Peking, where there is invariably a delay, and in fact it is difficult to ascertain what ulterior action is really taken. Before closing my remarks I would mention that a grave charge has been preferred by a British firm here against the Ex-Inspector, Taotai Sheng Sheng-ling. Off course the case was referred back to Foochow, and judgment on the spot. I remember to say that Sheng Sheng-ling will not admit that he acted wrongly in the matter, and if he does not, the matter would not go so far as Peking, and in this way I would like to say that the use of sending the case back to Peking, here, where it is, is a very bad plan, and as the Chinese Authorities here to make the same, and as the case is now in the hands of the Chinese, it would probably be a long time before it would be settled. For this reason I think that discretionary power ought to be given to our Consuls who could easily settle such questions without unnecessary delay. I would say, to stand any longer the hands of the Chinese. Some intelligent merchants here, who are acquainted with the case, have been disappointed in the result, and they are now looking for a better way to settle the matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, G.M.C."

LA FAVORITA.

The Italian Opera Company will appear at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, this evening in Donizetti's famous opera "La Favorita." As *Leonora de Guzman* is one of Signora Silini's most successful impersonations, and as the opera is deservedly popular both on account of its dramatic merits, and the charming character of the music, there will doubtless be a large attendance. A brief sketch of the leading features of the argument may enable those who have not previously seen the opera performed to intelligibly follow the course of events.

A youthful cavalier, Fernando, is discovered on the opening of the opera intending to take the monastic vows, when suddenly, to the utter amazement of the monks he declares that such a course would be in opposition to the dictates of his conscience, the world and the world's passions and allurements alone having possession of his heart.

On his departure we follow him into the presence of Leonora de Guzman, a charming and accomplished lady, at a villa belonging to Alfonso XI., King of Castile, and here we pause to give an insight into the true state of affairs and the cause of Fernando's unsettled condition of mind.

With this lady the King has fallen desperately in love, and but for the Pope's threatened excommunication would set aside his lawful wife, the Queen, in order to marry her.

War breaks out between the Castilians and the Moors, and Leonora, with a double intention to win Fernando from his idea of a monastery and to give him an opportunity of proving his chivalry, obtains for him a commission in the King's army. The King consents, and, weary of his attachment, proceeds further to load Fernando with honours and distinguished favours.

Fernando is all this time ignorant of the King's intrigue.

United to Leonora he discovers how unworthy the Sovereign has acted, and disgusted with such base motives, repudiates his honours and breaks his sword.

Utterly overwhelmed he again seeks a monastic life.

Leonora follows, and, seeking and obtaining forgiveness, expires in Fernando's arms.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

One of the largest attendances of the season showed this morning what a great amount of interest was generally felt in racing matters. Long before daylight the busy bees commenced to assemble in the enclosure, apparently determined to lose nothing for lack of perseverance. The gossip round the coffee table referred chiefly to the sensational auction of Mr. Lewis's racers last night, various opinions being expressed as to the merits and prospects of the high priced lots. Wrangler, Wild Fang and Triumph. Another question was raised which, as it has already been already occupied the attention of the Stewards, is worthy of more than a passing notice.

Mr. Lewis, whose ponies were sold by public auction yesterday, was the owner of two of the subscription griffins, and these animals were also put up and sold to the highest bidders. The opinion that has been raised is whether the purchasers of these animals are entitled to claim the privileges specially set aside by the Stewards for the original subscribers to the subscription griffin movement, that is to say, are these ponies, having changed ownership, eligible for certain events open only to subscription ponies? It is argued by those who think that they are not eligible, and not without reason I think, that to allow the purchasers of Mr. Lewis's griffins to share in the advantages which were specially set apart only for the original subscribers, is altogether contrary to the principles which govern this subscription griffin movement. No amount of argument can set aside this view, and it is quite evident that the Stewards would be well within their powers in declining to receive the entries of these ponies for the restricted races. However, there is also something to be said on the other side. Admitting that the Stewards have nothing whatever to do with the responsibilities incurred by the purchasers of these ponies, who bought them at public auction at their own risk and without any guarantee, it must not be forgotten that in the conditions for all the subscription griffin races, there is no clause referring to ownership. As plainly set down in the programme the races are open to all subscription griffins. The Stewards have also a precedent for accepting these entries. In Heather Bell's year the well known pony Cumshaw originally belonged to the late Mr. Heaton, but was transferred by that gentleman, "cumshawed" I believe, to Mr. Ross, in whose name he was entered and raced, winning the Victoria Plate on the third day.

There is, however, one little matter in connection with Mr. Lewis's ponies, which should not be overlooked. If the purchasers of these two griffins claim certain privileges which they say belonged to these animals, it is only fair that they should also be saddled with certain responsibilities these ponies have incurred. Mr. Lewis has backed the two subscription griffins both for the Valley Stakes and German Cup, and as it is an understood rule that all bets in Hongkong are play or pay, and moreover these particular bets having been stipulated to be p.p., it is a question for discussion whether, under all circumstances, if it is argued that these ponies were purchased for the sake of their engagements, the purchasers should not be saddled with their liabilities if they are to receive privileges to which their only claim is by purchase at the eleven hour. The Stewards of the Hongkong Races very properly in accordance with general usage will take no cognizance of any claims or disputes in regard to bets, but they are also bound *vide* No. 31 of the Rules of Racing sanctioned by the Jockey Club, to refuse the entries of ponies, which belonged to any person who is a defaulter.

Another matter which is worthy of attention, is a statement made in the Supreme Court yesterday by Mr. Dennis, who appeared on behalf of Mr. Lewis in an action which was brought against the last named by Mr. Stainfield. Referring to the pony auction Mr. Dennis said those "only were to be sold that had been tried

and found useless, and this statement was made on the authority of Mr. Lewis. As it is a matter of general comment that the sale of several of the ponies put up to auction yesterday was to some extent a mere bogus business, and that Mr. Lewis retains an interest in certain of the animals bought in, the Stewards may desire to receive some reliable assurances on this point. It is a most convenient arrangement for a person to incur a lot of liabilities over race-ponies, and after, by repeated trials discovering that the animals backed were utterly useless, to get rid of them and retaining only those that had proved of some value. Personally I trust the Stewards will accept the entries of the two subscription ponies; although, as already mentioned, the whole principle of the subscription griffin movement points towards disqualification.

Shamrock was the first pony on the course this morning, and galloped a mile in good style with Mr. Nickels in the saddle—times—34, 68, 1-45, and 2-21. Rialto and Incubus were sent twice at three parts speed from the mile and a quarter starting post to the bridge a distance of about five furlongs, both going well. Filbert, ridden by Mr. Hutchings, after a spell of trotting, cantered the length of the straight, appearing to move very stiffly. Hornpipe, carrying a heavy weight, went a mile very steadily, the times being 34 1-5th, 70 2-5th, 1-46 3-5th, and 2-21 4-5th, and the pony going very easily at the finish. Highland Fling accompanied by Allegro covered the same distance but at a slower pace the clocks registering in this gallop 40 3-5th, 77 3-5th, 1-55, and 2-28 1-5th. The subscription griffin Filbert Streak galloped at a slow pace, and is evidently short of work. Dragic Bower went a mile at his best pace, which is an exceedingly slow rate, and returned to the paddock on three legs. *Exit* Dragic Bower from the "silks and satins" of the turf to appear in due course between the fags.

Mr. Tassman's promising dark chestnut Zagzag galloped steadily in company with Malcriado. Mr. John Peel's new purchase, the grey griffin hitherto known as Wrangler, came down the straight in splendid form, and I am quite prepared when the lotteries open to see this slashing customer returned first favorite for the Hongkong Derby. Rose and Reeler galloped once round—the last six furlongs in 1-46 3-5th. Both these fine looking chestnuts are amiss. Mr. Capel on El Dorado and Mr. Hutchings on Nebuchadnezzar "powed" half a mile, the first named winning by about 150 yards, and then continuing finished a mile and a half in fairly good form. Chilli Callum, Gang Forward and Lord of the Isles galloped a mile in 2-32—the first three quarters in 1-48, and the last half mile in 72 seconds. Lord of the Isles returned to his stable in a very groggy condition, and will not stand galloping on the hard ground.

The Ewasubscription griffins galloped a quarter of a mile twice at full speed, Mr. Bell's representative winning hands down in both instances. Mr. Paul's pair, Opal and Lavender, covered a mile in 2-30, the first named, carrying Mr. Nickels, cantering at the finish. The grand looking Derwent was sent a strong exercise gallop, pulling up on the Black Rock Hill. The chestnut griffin purchased by Mr. Morgan at yesterday's auction, Blunder Blas, and Wild Dash started together for a gallop over the Derby distance. After going five furlongs the chestnut commenced to roll about like a ship in distress, and trying to bolt into the ditch managed to unhitch Mr. Sampson, who fortunately escaped unhurt. "Blunder" and Wild Dash continued on their wild career, eventually passing the post in 3-36—last mile 2-25 2-5th, the old pony pulling double over his companion the entire journey. Ambassador galloped at a fair pace, but I did not succeed in getting his time. The fastest "pow" of the morning was that between the Macao leviathan's new purchase Little Warlock (late Astonisher) the black griffin Cutty Sark (late Inverary) and old Dauntless. The ponies started at the mile post Dauntless getting a long way the worst of the start, and the chestnut cut out the work at a fast pace, the first quarter occupying 33 seconds. Going up the hill the black drew alongside, but was beaten as the half mile post was reached in 65 seconds. Dauntless six lengths behind. Making for the village Little Warlock favored by his light weight drew clear away, the big dun at the same moment commencing to make up his leg-way. The six furlongs were covered in 1-40, and the full distance in 2-17, the chestnut winning by four lengths, and the other pair finishing neck and neck. This was a very smart performance on the part of the winner, even allowing that he only carried a feather.

Dutch Oven and Kassasin were "powed" together, the first named always having the best of the struggle. The subscription griffin Buggins and the Banker's dark grey cantered at an easy gait. There was some excitement amongst the spectators when the "cracks" Prejudice and Montezuma started together for an exercise gallop over the mile course. Both went splendidly, cantering past the winning post close together in 2-22. Scotch Reel, Darnley, and Bothwell were sent steadily for a mile—first quarter 44, half mile 1-24, and full distance 2-41. Mr. Sassoon's Rebel and Mr. Mody's Luzon galloped separately, the last named walking off the course apparently lame. A little did healthy exercise. Mr. Nickels' rode his chestnut pony Newmarket a long steady gallop, last mile in 2-24.

Several ponies from Amoy arrived by the steamship *Douglas* this morning. Mr. Kerfoot has become the owner of a new griffin called Ratlin, which has a big reputation in the north.

AN OLD SPORTSMAN.

"THAMES-STREET INDUSTRIES," by Percy Russell. This illustrated Pamphlet on Perfumery, &c., published at 6d., may be had gratis from any Chemist or dealer in perfumery in the World or JOHN COSSELL & Co. London. (Advt.)

AMOI.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Henry Hammond, Lightkeeper of the Chinese Customs Service, died at the Kowloon Hospital on Saturday night. An Inquest was held on the body yesterday afternoon, and adjourned till to-day at eleven o'clock in the forenoon to enquire into the cause of death. The deceased was buried this morning at half past seven o'clock.

We learn that the woman who murdered her husband in such a brutal manner in Amoy last month, has been tried for the crime of murder before the Senior Magistrate at Tung-wa. When interrogated as to her motive for committing the crime, she denied it *in toto*, upon which the magistrate ordered her to be flogged across the breasts, and legs below the knees. After having received 300 blows with the bamboo, she still denied the crime, stating that her husband was a great drunkard. On the morning in question he came home very drunk, and I had to leave the house for fear he would do me an injury, as he is very violent while under the influence of drink. I was called by a neighbour who told me that my husband was burning the house and he was still inside. When asked how the kerosine oil came over the bed, she replied, that her husband must have taken up the oil bottle by mistake and commenced to drink it under the impression that it was samshoo, upon finding out his mistake he spilled it over himself and the bed, upsetting the lamp at the same time. The magistrate then thought himself of taking his wife into his confidence to try and get the truth out of the woman. The magistrate's wife then took the woman into a small room, and asked her to tell her all about the affair, and she would ask her husband to let her go. The murderer thereupon confessed committing the deed, giving as a motive her being in love with a man who acts a woman's part in theatrical performances, implicating her paramour in the crime, saying he told her how to do the deed without diving suspicion upon myself, and I followed his instructions to the very letter. During the conversation between the magistrate's wife and the murderer, a man was stationed behind a partition, writing down all the conversation. She was then brought before the magistrate again and questioned when she denied the crime again, upon which the magistrate confronted her with the man who written down her conversation with the magistrate's wife. She then confessed the crime to the magistrate, who remanded her back to prison, and at once sent a courier to Foochow to arrest her paramour, who has gone there with the theatrical troupe to which he belongs. If he is proved to be implicated in the crime, there is not the least doubt but that he will be decapitated.—*Gazette*.

SHANGHAI.

The steamship *Wuhu* is breaking up. She is hogged and nearly broken in two 60 feet from forward.

The insolvent silk dealer has not settled up, as reported. His debts amounted to Tls. 530,000, and he went away with 6 wives; the second wife had 60 boxes with her. It is supposed that he will be arrested at Kashing.

We are informed that on the arrival of the Eastern Extension's steamer *Sherard Osborn* at Woosung to-day, the Great Northern Co. sent a telegram to Li Chung-tang begging him to instruct the Taoist of Shanghai to call upon the Customs authorities here and request them to prohibit the landing of the Eastern Extension's shore end. The Customs at this port replied that they could not comply with the Taoist's request in this connection. As soon as Li Chung-tang heard this he wired the Taoist saying that the Customs were justified in prohibiting the landing of the cable here in accordance with the terms of existing treaties, notwithstanding this the Customs say they cannot comply with Li Chung-tang's wish.—*Mercury*.

CHEFOO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]
8th January, 1883.
The British gun-boat *Zephyr* will leave our port to-morrow, bound to Shanghai. The Chinese gun-boats *Yang-wai* and *Chao-yung*, with Captain Lang and Chief Engineer Mr. Kitchwood on board, left on the 1st instant for a cruise. The *Wei-yuen*, with Admiral Ting and Captains Clayton and Farran on board, is still in Corea. On Saturday last a beautifully decorated Christmas tree, with many fine presents for all the children, was put up in the Seamen's Hall; about 25 children with their parents and friends were present and the little folks heartily enjoyed the tree and gifts. The benefactors, one of our resident ladies, fully deserved the cheers given to her by all present. The weather since the New Year has been fine and mild.

Vessels in port—Chinese gunboats *Tatan* and *Miyun*. British gunboat *Zephyr*, and eight sailing vessels.—*Mercury*.

To-day's

Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL,

CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

THIS EVENING,

THE 20TH INSTANT,

"LA FAVORITA."

GRAND OPERA BY DONIZETTI.

Hongkong, 18th January, 1883. [73]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, (DIRECT.)

THE Steamship

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Captain Callen, will be despatched for the above

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For Freight or Passage apply to

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Hongkong, 16th January, 1883. [71]

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BEGS to announce to the Ladies and Gentle-

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BOOTS and SHOES, LAWN TENNIS

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Hongkong, 20th January, 1883. [75]

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Full Particulars to be sent to

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Hongkong, 1st October, 1882. [9]

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HAVE RECEIVED EX LATEST ARRIVALS.

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CHAMPAGNE.

Hongkong, 7th October, 1882. [10]

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Hongkong, 10th October, 1882. [6]

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KELLY & WALSH—HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 10th November, 1882.

Intimations.

F. D. GUEDES.

